RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Appln. No. 10/723,797 Amendment dated December 17, 2004 Reply to Office Action of September 22, 2004 UEL 1 7 2004

Attorney Docket No. 03698/LH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: T. OKAMURA et al.

Serial No.

: 10/723,797

Filed

: November 25, 2003

For

: CONNECTOR

Art Unit

: 2833

Examiner

: Larisa Z. Tsukerman

Confirm. No.: 9087

Customer No.: 01933

Dated: December 17. 2004

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION TO NO.703-872-9306

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile

TOYAL PAGES: 11

transmitted to the Commissioner for

Patents Office on the date noted below

Hamilyn Stults

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed

extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith. please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto. authorization to charge the extension fee to Account No. 06-1378.

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

This is responsive to the Office Action dated September 22, 2004, the term for response to which expires December 22, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.